

Mecklenburg County
Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Regular Meeting
October 15th, 2020

Members Present: Tomika Moore, Sonya Harper, Kendra King, Kevin Poirier, Judge Faith Fickling-Alvarez, T.L. Larry, Russell Price, Lt. Gene Lim, Brittney Bogues, Denise Steele-Campbell, Janelle Fleck, Dr. Cotrane Penn, Jason Tryon, Heather Taraska, Dr. Keith Cradle, Wanda Douglas, Phyllis Barnette, Tysha Shaw, Jaylen Adams, Yosan Zerai, Jessica Davis

Staff Present: Scott Stoker, Elizabeth Swann

Guests Present: Shavonda McClure-Tresports, Darryl & Robin Sturdivant-Team Up Connections, Thompson Residential- LaDonte Lee, Thompson Assessment- Dr. Becky Smith-Thompson Court Assessment, Nalo Coban- Achieving Success on Purpose, Cara Evans-Patterson-CMPD Youth Diversion, Reggie McNeil-TYM (SHIFT), Glenn Smith-DASH Life Connections,

Members Absent: Commissioner Pat Cotham, Ashley Titus,

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by the Chair Kevin Poirier.

Review and Approval of October 15th, 2020 Agenda:

Kevin allowed council members to review the agenda. Dr. Cotrane Penn moved to accept the agenda. Kendra King seconded. The council unanimously approved the agenda.

Review and Approval of September 17th Minutes

Kevin allowed council members to review the minutes. Kendra King moved to accept the minutes. Tomika Moore seconded.

Judge Faith Fickling-Alvarez abstained from voting on June/August minutes due to not being present

Wanda Douglas abstained from voting on September minutes due to not being present

T.L. Larry abstained from voting on September minutes due to not being present

Jaylen Adams abstained from voting on September minutes due to not being present

Yosan Zerai abstained from voting on September minutes due to not being present

The council approved the minutes.

Welcome

JCPC Chair Kevin Poirier took attendance by having the council members say present in order to keep an attendance log for meeting being virtual. Quorum was established.

Lt. Gene Lim is transitioning to a new position. He will be in the administrative services group as an executive support officer, he's excited to start a new role. For the past years he's really enjoyed serving in his role on the JCPC Council, identifying programs for youth monitoring and making sure that we were doing our level best to provide service gaps for the youth of Mecklenburg County.

Lt. Travis Child will be his replacement on the JCPC Council, he brings a wealth of experience, and he's excited to be on board.

Announcements / Reminders

The attendance requirement is now 65% of all regularly scheduled committee meetings.

The inclusion of special and assigned subcommittee meetings is no longer applicable, its 65% of all

regularly schedules meetings. There are no excused absences. Members cannot miss three consecutive regularly scheduled committee meetings. To have action in the subcommittee meetings there must be a quorum to be able to vote.

Monthly Program Updates

We are going to hear from some of our programs through the monthly program update, which was the document that was put in place at the previous meeting. This will be the first meeting hearing from the programs. This provides programs the opportunity to share the operations of their programs, give council members the opportunity to have more tracking accountability and documentation. Hopefully this will be helpful when it comes to the next funding cycle when decisions revolve around the next \$2M funding for a variety of programs in the community.

During this process, programs have advised what needs to be changed or what could be easier. Rather than have that conversation now, Kevin spoke with Tomika Moore who is the Chair of the Monitoring committee, to examine the feedback and look at some of the suggestions from programs around how the program update could be altered or remain the same. At this time, we are continuing with the program update form currently being utilized. Programs that were late in submitting will not be allowed to present their information at this time. If there are any questions for the programs that did not submit on time, when we look at the monthly update, questions can be asked at that time.

There will be the following discussions from the agenda:

- Discussion on client tracking data from October
- Read through the modified By Laws

The By Laws require that the revisions are presented 30 days prior to a vote. The By Laws will not be changed at this meeting it will be a read through. Voting will commence at the next meeting.

- Discussion on Final Accounting for FY 19-20
- Discussion on State required COVID-19 Response Plan forms

Team-Up Connections- Continuing with group mentoring meetings, 4 mentees per session. We are also involved with a mentee at Tar Heels Challenge. Team-Up Connections have served 20 youths, 17 coming from DJJ, 3 DJJ youths recently referred which brings the total to 23 to date. Team-Up Connections is projected to served 90 youths at this time, they are at 27% of the projection. Team-Up Connections have also aided a mentee that had some mishap with Concord Police Dept. They are performing face to face mentoring, receiving great rapport with the youths and following all the guidelines required in order to keep everyone safe. Parents attend the meetings and Team-Up Connections are Triple P practitioners. Parents are very happy with Team-Up Connections and the work being accomplished by the youths.

Discussions: *Members are curious of the fundraising event? Was it publicize/ virtual? Were the JCPC council sent invites?*

The fundraising event is virtual, which is this Saturday at 5PM, October 17th, 2020. You can go to Team Up Connections page or Instagram and it will also be aired through a YouTube channel.

Thompson Residential -Admitted 4 new clients, 3 in September, 1 was return, successful terminations were 4. As of the end of September they have served 12. The projected number to serve this fiscal year is 48. Currently 3 are waitlisted, awaiting to receive comprehensive clinical assessment, clear health screen due to (COVID-19), planning transportation from detention/placement details.

Thompson successfully launched a paid apprenticeship program this past month in collaboration with their facilities department. The youth in the program were incredibly excited as this allows them to get exposure to a trade, provides additional structure/purpose, teaches real world job skills and of course they're excited to be compensated monetarily for their time. It was truly moving to see these young men's eyes open to the concept of making money through safe, legal means and to see the wheels turn in their head that maybe they can have a different future if they put the skills they're learning to practice after they leave our program.

Thompson continues to communicate with Russell Price and his team making them aware of the availability of beds. They have conducted 7 family team meetings and linked the children and their families with 6 clinical service providers.

Discussions: *What other funding sources you've researched and have applied for? Has there been any outreach for business donations? Any fundraising or educational events? What trade and places for the apprenticeship?*

The financial aspect would be under Matt Simons jurisdiction for clarification. Regarding the apprenticeship program, they're just joining in with maintenance crew for the last 2 hours of their shift, which would include hedge trimming, raking & blowing leaves, removing rocks, pulling weeds, transporting lumber, cleaning around the cottages, etc.

Achieving Success on Purpose- They provide counseling services to individuals, family and group, and have received 7 referrals and 3 are in the program as of today. Challenges have been explaining to the parent/legal guardian why they were referred to the program. ASOP had court counselors give a thorough explanation of the program, diversion plan and the referral process to the parents. So, when the program calls the parent, they know what to expect. In addition, getting the parent to show up to the appointments has been a challenge as well. For the other currently funded programs if you have notice any of your students that you're mentoring or in the apprenticeship having some difficult challenges where they could use some of our counseling services, we are open to receiving them as well. Doing well with the current 3 clients, their breakthroughs individually as well as the families are doing better communicating with each other and seeing progress in the youth that we are serving.

Discussions: *Have businesses donated and what is the process identifying and asking businesses to donate? Do you have educational materials? What are other funding sources you've research and applied for?*

ASOP has reached out to some of the local businesses, they've donated gift cards to our programs. We will use it when we need it, we've reached out to see if they would give us any financial donations or donations from their stores. We're still working on how to maximize our funding opportunities; you should get an update at the next meeting.

Thompson Assessments- We had 7 kids admitted meaning that we assessed 7 youths during September and between July & September, we have assessed a total of 17. All the referrals come from DJJ. Thompson doesn't operate with a formal waitlist. They accept all incoming referrals and prioritize them in order of circumstances (such as detention status, upcoming court dates, any crisis-related concerns identified at the time of referral, etc.). Primarily last month they had a lot of detention kids so that was their primary focus. So far things are going well, they've had a steady flow of referrals, some in detention this month, and some out, they will be on track for October as well.

Discussions: *What other funding sources you've researched and have applied for?*

Thompson's Resource Development Team seeks funding for the agency from a variety of sources on an ongoing basis. Thompson frequently identifies grants and other funding streams to provide clinical and supportive services, and several youths assessed through the Juvenile Court Assessment Program have been referred to and benefited from such programming at no cost to families. However, our JCPC assessment program as it exists would simply not be possible without JCPC funding. Although the program has become an integral part of the local juvenile justice and court system, there have yet to be any opportunities identified for the staff positions to be funded through the county or the state. As such, JCPC dollars alone keep this program operating and make our services available and accessible to any youth involved with the juvenile justice system, regardless of funding source or level of legal involvement. Given that this will continue to be our situation, this same statement will likely be offered on each monthly JCPC report for our program for the duration of the fiscal year.

TreSports - Projected to serve 60 youths. They have served 23, which puts them at about 40%. TreSports operate an after-school program in which they provide interpersonal evidence based and personal skill building curriculum. They also provide a parenting piece and extracurricular activities. Regarding the funding and sustainability, they attended the out of school time program information session and are interested in applying for those county funds to serve children and Mecklenburg County. This is an opportunity to apply for funding up to \$200,000 per organization. Through a competitive proposal process, funds are awarded for 2-years to eligible out of school time providers.

TreSports hadn't faced any challenges for the month of September. They are still offering their program face to face, picking the children up from home, transporting them to the facility and bring them back at the end of the day. A reduced number of referrals received, but they understand the number of clients in courts have reduced as well.

Our TreSports success story is J. Tillman. J. Tillman is a student in our TreSports Fall Session; this session began August 18th, 2020. J. Tillman is a student that faces many challenges. However, he has managed to overcome these challenges by interacting with his fellow peers and wanting to graduate from the program. He comes to TreSports with an open mind and eager to learn how to change his negative thoughts and actions into positive ones. J. Tillman is the first student in this session to earn Student of the week. He has been very consistent with his work and his positive behavior. J. Tillman is a great student and we are honored to have him here at TreSports

Discussions: No questions submitted from council members.

Youth Development Initiatives – Kevin asked if anyone from YDI is represented. YDI did submit for each of their 3 programs and their report was viewable and sent out to JCPC council members as well.

Monthly program updates are concluded. Kevin noted some comments in the chat box, with programs talking about meeting the deadline. Kevin apologizes if folks were waiting on clarification, in the future, regardless of an email with feedback or questions, please just follow that deadline set by the full JCPC council around expectations, moving forward. Even if it is a corrective and iterative process, we will make changes as needed in terms of the structure.

Kevin asked for feedback from council members in terms of the monthly update form?

Judge Fickling-Alvarez commented on the success story section that the names of the juveniles should not be used, only initials due to confidentiality purposes. With herself and T.L. Larry being on the JCPC

council at the same time, he attends my courtroom and some of these kids are my kids that are in these programs. Just a reminder to use initials when speaking about juveniles in certain sections of the monthly reports.

Kevin hoped the JCPC council gathered some information and will keep these reports that have been sent out as they come in. This process will continue at the November meeting, we'll keep the same deadline and format until otherwise notified.

Client Tracking Data- sent to JCPC council members via email for their review

Kevin posted the tracking sheet online for viewing, this is the client count for number served, serve year to date in referrals. This is the opportunity for the council members to ask questions of the programs.

Discussions:

Judge Fickling-Alvarez asked what is the difference between number served year to date and number admitted year to date?

Scott Stoker, Department of Public Safety provided clarification, the number of youths served to date is the ones they have served since July 1, 2020 which is the total number and then there are carryovers from the previous year. We allow programs to carry kids over, received a referral in May, they were admitted in June, they can carry those kids into the next year.

Tomika Moore asks, on the column where it states number admitted year to date could that say "new" in front of it to specify? Scott stated he can edit the information.

Modified JCPC By Laws- Scott Stoker, NCDPS

In the past, data was reviewed annually, we are now going to a 2yr funding stream if the JCPC and county would like to on certain programs. So now it is only mandatory for all of our data to be reviewed every other year; the membership was just changed which goes into effect December 1, 2020; the Chief of Police can now appoint a designee; local mental health wording changed; the big change was 2 persons under the age of 18yrs, it is now 21yrs, so it can be 2 persons under the age of 21yrs or 1 person under 21yrs or a member of the public represented the interest of families and at risk juveniles. The JCPC are just required to meet 6 times a year at the minimum, most of the time the council meets anywhere from 9 to 10 times per year. Back in April this was voted on regarding the state of emergency to meet virtually which the language was given to Kevin by the county. Most of them are general statute based that just passed around July 1, 2020.

Final Accounting for FY19-20- Scott Stoker, NCDPS

The state funds that were awarded to the programs for FY19-20, at the end of the year must be shown on their general ledger to the penny. Paybacks are funds they didn't use or if they spent outside the line item. The programs are penalized for not reporting it to the JCPC council or the county. On this report, this is \$15,483 being returned. Last week most of the programs have been billed.

CMPD - \$1,017.00	SHIFT Restitution- \$0.00
DASH Mentoring- \$2645	Thompson Residential - \$0.00
DASH Strengthening Families- \$925.00	TreSports - \$7,170.00
JCPC Admin- \$1046.75	Thompson Court Assessments- \$957.00
YDI After School Academy - \$1,723.00	

Thompson Residential, they were over matched because the JCPC awarded \$350,000 state dollars and the county match that with \$350, 000 dollars. They spent all their state dollars, they did not spend around \$70, 000 of county dollars.

I think that total was off about \$1.6M because it was part of the expansion funds that was added last year in the middle of the year. So, \$15,000 dollars off that 1.6M that was awarded to Mecklenburg County. The programs have 60 days to pay, most of the time it goes thru the county, if no payment is received their funds are ceased.

State -Required COVID Response Plan Forms-Scott Stoker, NCDPS

A month ago, Dept of Public Safety sent out a requirement form for all the JCPC programs to fill out a COVID risk operations response which totaled 10 questions. We inquired if they had to do a budget revision or program changes for this year funding. We will be forwarding those to Kevin, probably tomorrow or Monday. Hopefully at the November meeting, those will all be submitted out to all the members to review each programs COVID operation plans, based on our questions that the department have asked.

Kevin encourages everyone to pick a committee to be a part of, if you haven't already, many people have filled out the Google form that was sent out. A lot of important work is going to start happening in the various sub committees.

Committee Reports:

State	New member orientation session
County	Plan for re-opening, the state has moved into Phase 3, the county will remain in Phase 1 thru the end of December. Different factors played a part in the decision to ensure the health and safety of the residents of Mecklenburg County. We're also looking to be able to accommodate the Mecklenburg county employees who are at home, working with remote school and other factors related to COVID. JCPC will continue to meet virtually at least through the end of the calendar year. In December, the county will re-evaluate where things are and then make some decisions as to how we will proceed in calendar year 2021.
Marketing Committee	N/A
Monitoring Committee	County is doing the monitoring and will share out the information in the March meeting.
Risk &Needs Committee	We compared the statistics for Mecklenburg, comparative to the state, around different categories that essentially DJJ has provided of risk and needs for the county compared to how they are with the state, from 2017 to current. We were able to see the changes over the last 3 years. Key areas were identified that we thought were the highest risks and most needed areas to use and identified in the RFP. Meeting again next month to add language that the county requires and identify the risk and needs that we think based on the data. To be reviewed by December and begin voting in January.
Funding Committee	N/A
By-Laws Committee	N/A
Nominating Committee	N/A
Program Support	N/A

Executive Committee Meeting on Nov 5th to set the agenda.

Kevin asked for a motion to adjourn, Dr. Keith Cradle made a motion to adjourn. Jessica Davis seconded. Meeting ended at 6:04pm.

Minutes submitted by Elizabeth Swann